



The Minuteman



Volume 11 Number 5

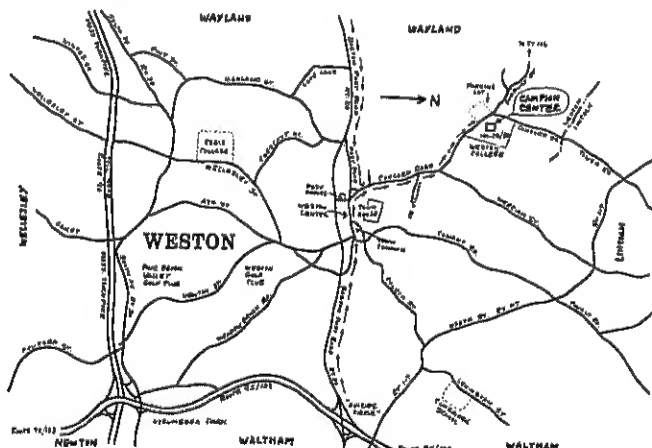
The OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the
MINUTEMAN REPEATER ASSOCIATION

May 1983

MEETING NOTICE

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

<u>PLACE</u>	Weston Campion Center
<u>DATE</u>	Tuesday, May 17, 1983
<u>TIME</u>	7:30 PM, Doors open at 7:00 PM for socializing
<u>PROGRAM</u>	After a short business meeting to elect a new slate of officers, Bob White, K1RLY, of Data General (MMRA member and a past MMRA Officer) will talk on <u>Computers as Related to Ham Radio</u> .
<u>RAFFLE</u>	A special ICOM IC 4AT 450 MHz Walkie, won by Jack, W1IDM last November, has been graciously donated by Ruth, W1SCS. She promises to be present to draw the winning number. Tickets still \$1 each.
<u>REFRESHMENTS</u>	Coffee and Doughnuts.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This MMRA fiscal year has passed very swiftly and by the time you read this, the annual elections will be forthcoming.

The Board of Directors was faced with the problem of finding a home for one of our most heavily utilized repeaters, and with monumental decisions in terms of the direction of the MMRA. The time had come to think ahead several years and not to just immediate and pressing problems.

As a result of concerted effort, the Board functioned in a highly professional manner, each Director participating and taking on additional functions and responsibility not the least important of which was working closely with the repeater trustees and technical persons.

We have seen technical progress as the result of being able to offer the technical people in the organization projects which utilize their skills and which have now, and will more so in the future, benefit each and every repeater user. Without this incentive we would lose our technical people and the loss would be felt

by all of us. Despite the fact that we have added two new repeaters and made great technical accomplishments, (for which I sincerely thank the officers, directors, technical people and participants), it is you, the dues paying member, who deserves our profound thanks.

By your support of the organization, the finances to improve and embellish the equipment are possible, and you have demonstrated your support by sustaining your membership and bringing in new members. The paid membership rolls are as high as they have ever been and to the Board, this signifies your support.

With that in mind, we have a new membership drive and we will award a year-free membership to anyone bringing in four new members within a fiscal year of the first member signing up. Like any contest, if there is a question of what constitutes a new member, the decision will rest with the directors. The procedure is simple—have your candidate indicate that you sponsored him (either on the application or by note or memo) and our Secretary will duly record this credit to you.

You might ask why more members are needed if membership is now high. The answer is that we have had to make a commitment to those who come after us and plan for expansion. We would have been the only club of our size without a 450 or 220 repeater and the frequencies were going fast. I think the realization of this prophecy has already begun to happen with the advent of the codeless license and whether or not your sympathies are with this type of license, the job will be ours to accept the expansion, educate and make good HAMS of the new people. Our repeaters for the most part are under-utilized and there is plenty of room.

We have great plans for visible technological improvements for the next fiscal year but, in order to maintain our present dues structure of thirty eight cents a week (\$20.00 per annum), we need the support of our membership. We can accept another two hundred members without overcrowding the repeaters. If you can't bring in four new members, get one person to join and you will insure future progress and low dues.

Our Public Service Committee did an admirable job in providing safety communications for a 41 mile boat race on the Charles River sponsored by the Charles River Watershed Association. This race of canoes and Kayaks was held under adverse conditions with torrential rain.

Fifteen HAMS participated on relatively short notice and in some cases inadequate briefing and demonstrated great versatility as to safety assistance in some very potentially hazardous (to the racers) situations. This type of HAM activity not only is of service to the community, but is great press and was reported in a few newspapers. If you are interested, listen in on 22/82 Tuesdays at 7:30 PM local time for new public service projects.

Our objectives for the ensuing year will be announced in this column after the elections.

This is an important meeting and the last one until the fall and I would love to see each and every one of you there.

73,

De KA1AL

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When you patronize a MMRA advertiser, please mention that you saw his ad in the NEWSLETTER, and let him know if it helped you. When you support a MMRA advertiser, you support your NEWSLETTER. Before you buy by mail, check with your local ham dealer, (there is now only ONE in New England) he can help you keep your money close to home.

FREE MMRA MEMBERSHIP

In order to keep dues at the present affordable level (\$20.00) and still maintain our repeaters and add new machines, the MMRA needs new members. Our goal is a total of 700 members by the end of 1983.

The Board of Directors has discussed several ways to add 200 new members to our rolls. The most effective method has been determined to have the present members ask their friends and acquaintances to join the MMRA. The best salesman for any product is a satisfied customer.

To reward the diligent "salesman," the Board of Directors has chosen to give a FREE MEMBERSHIP to any present MMRA member who signs up four NEW members within a calendar year. This simple task will enable the MMRA to keep its place as one of the largest and most progressive repeater organizations in the Northeast. You will also find enclosed an application form for MMRA that you may pass along to a friend and prospective member. When you need additional forms, please contact KA1BBN, WB1FAE or pick one up at TEL-COM. Good hunting and '73:

Fred Campbell, WB1FAE
MMRA Membership Chairman

MMRA FOX HUNT

An enthusiastic gathering of amateurs met for the recent hidden transmitter hunt on April 17th in Waltham. Using a variety of antennae from simple loops to double dipoles, the participants had an enjoyable Sunday morning exercise. Winner was Bob Taylor, W1RNJ with second place going to Steve MacKenzie, WB1DNZ.

The next MMRA-sponsored fox hunt will be Sunday, May 15, again in Waltham. Meet at 10:00 AM at McDonalds on Main Street, Route 20. The hunt will start at 10:30 and end at 11:30, with the prospect of an after-hunt get-together in the planning stage. Talk-in on 146.22/82 and 52/52.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Period: April 1, 1983 to April 30, 1983

EXPENSES		INCOME	
01-61	\$209.23	Membership Dues	\$666.29
07-67	89.96	Misc. Income	157.73
115-715	45.25	Total Income	\$824.02
22-82	50.97		
Secretary	28.92		
Treasurer	8.00		
Meetings	202.27		
Total Expenses	\$634.60		

CONSOLIDATED INCOME

Period: May 20, 1982 to April 30, 1983

EXPENSES		INCOME	
01-61	\$ 2,050.30	Advertising	\$ 100.00
07-67	2,370.93	Membership Dues	8,416.29
115-715	414.45	Refreshments	284.47
22-82	1,032.19	Raffle	718.75
220 MHz Rptr.	601.75	Misc. Income	194.39
Newsletter	1,607.52	Total Income	\$9,713.90
President	65.39		
Secretary	296.52	Bal. forward 5/20/82	\$4,808.39
Treasurer	42.44	Total Income	9,713.90
W1CT project	500.00		14,522.29
Meetings	674.07	Total Expenses	-10,221.46
Raffle Prizes	565.90	Balance 4/30/83	\$4,300.83
Total Expenses	\$10,221.46		

Bill S. KB1DY

at the DIRECTORS' MEETING

April 6, 1983

The technical coordinators of the MMRA repeaters met with the Board of Directors to discuss proposed needs to be included as items in next year's budget.

The Board discussed Education as a budget item for next year—the cost of materials, the space for classes and the need for instructors. Suggestion for next Newsletter—provide a questionnaire to include teaching in new MMRA program, teaching code, regulations, theory, assisting in classes, recruiting members, volunteer examiner program, etc.

In case MMRA is considering another 450 machine in the future, it was suggested that a frequency allocation be applied for soon, as available frequencies are fast disappearing.

The Secretary reports the active membership is now 468.

WA1YRQ

EDITOR'S CORNER

Well, we did it again! We got through another year at MMRA. This past year saw a continuation of the fine work started by George Downs, W1CT. Our present administration under Al Kunian, KA1AL has pushed forward with vigor to make the MMRA the leader in communications in New England.

I, for one, being part of that administration, feel a deep sense of pride in our organization. I know that this upcoming year will be a banner one also. The MMRA, along with all other organizations in ham radio, will be setting up a procedure to comply with the FCC edict regarding the training and examination of future hams and the upgrading of present hams. Incidentally, speaking of pride, I was surprised to see that this newsletter was awarded the "Newsletter of the Month" award in the April issue of 73 Magazine. You know who deserve the credit on this one don't you? Yours truly was embarrassed at the last meeting when, after selling the raffle tickets, I had my winning ticket picked. Since there is no rule that says that the Editor and Treasurer have to observe a vow of poverty, I quickly put away any thought of returning the cash prize to the club.

Editor



The Minuteman



NEWSLETTER OF THE MONTH

From an area rich in Revolutionary War history comes this month's newsletter contest winner—*The Minuteman*, bulletin of the Minuteman Repeater Association, based in Lexington, Massachusetts.

This is a jam-packed newsletter for a vigorous and versatile club. The MMRA operates several repeaters in eastern Massachusetts, runs an active public service system, and involves itself in the technical education of its members. And there is a space for all of these activities in *The Minuteman*.

It is not unusual for *The Minuteman* to run 10 to 12 pages long, and little space is wasted. The reporting in the newsletter is succinct and informative. One recent issue contained an article on the care and feeding of nicads as well as an in-depth look at the status of MMRA's newest repeater. This article included not only what was done to the repeater and why, but it also contained oscilloscope-generated graphics illustrating key points of the machine's operation.

The issue also included an up-to-date listing of the middle-eastern New England repeaters and news of upcoming and past public service activities.

But all is not stuffed-shirt. One-liners are judiciously sprinkled throughout the newsletter, and the comments of the columnists are evidence that this club does not let business interfere with levity.

Congratulations to *Minuteman* Editor Bill Shaughnessy WB1GVA for his fine work.

To enter your club's newsletter in 73's contest, just send it to 73, Pine Street, Peterborough NH 03458.

HERE and THERE

If you are looking for a specific piece of ham equipment or have something to sell, you might want to try the SWAP NET held on 146.85 MHz, the Interstate Repeater Society repeater, at 9:00 PM every Tuesday evening. It boasts wide coverage of the ham community, and often gets quick results. No prices over the air.

If you are a night owl or a light sleeper, you could also check in on the NUT NET on 146.85 MHz at twelve midnight. They say that the number of sign-offs far exceeds the number of hams checking in. Good fun, though, even if you do lose a bit of sleep.

For those interested in amateur satellites, tune in the SATELLITE USERS NET on 146.61, the Marlboro repeater, on Wednesday evenings at 8 PM local time. The purpose of the net is to encourage use of the amateur satellites. All amateurs are invited to check in, regardless of satellite experience. In addition, we have been invited to become the pilot local area net to be connected directly with AMSAT. This will allow up-to-the-minute information to be available on both the current satellites and the Phase IIIB satellite. For further information, please contact Dan Wissell, N1BYT, Net Manager at 692-7880 or 351-4869 (days).

INTERMOD ALLEY, that infamous stretch of Rt. 95/128 from Bear Hill in Waltham to the TV towers in Needham, often blanks out 2 meter receivers to the point where nothing can be heard. Keep in mind, though, that your transmissions can still get out through the heavy RF, so plan to talk rather than trying to listen when mobiling through this area.

Newest ham on the block is Katy, K1KSH, XYI of Tom, N1AZM. Having recently acquired a Novice license, rumor has it that she can hardly wait to take the next step so she can talk to all the folks she has heard on the MMRA machines. Go to it, Katy!

PUBLIC SERVICE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMUNICATION SEMINAR

Air Force Military Affiliate Radio Service

The May seminar on Amateur Radio public service will center on Air Force MARS - its purposes, procedures, requirements, and in particular, how hams can use it and interface with it for both disasters and routine message-handling. The speaker is Don Black, KA1BTU. This session will be on a Wednesday, May 11, because of a scheduling conflict. As usual, it will start at 7:30 pm, at Waltham Civil Defense headquarters, 27 Lexington St.

Black is also on the calendar for Thursday, September 8, on the topic of Civil Air Patrol communications. Talks are planned for 1984 on search and rescue operations, and the coordination of multiple radio services on large emergency jobs.

The seminars are co-sponsored by Waltham Civil Defense and the Minuteman Repeater Association's public service committee. Both welcome inquiries from licensed Amateur Radio Operators and from prospective hams.

Radio talk-ins to the seminars are on the MMRA's Weston repeater, 146.82 MHz.

If you travel in the North Central part of Middlesex County and need emergency reporting capability, remember WB1GOF, the 146.52 station in Westford, manned by PART (Police Amateur Radio Team) members. Access is by a five second tone using the asterisk. If you can't activate it yourself, ask for help from someone else on frequency or through someone on a nearby repeater.

BUY and SELL

FOR SALE: Goldplated Vibroplex Bug - \$50. - firm
Ham M Rotator Control Box - \$25.
Both in good shape. Al Burnett - W1JNV
26 Gulliver Street
Milton, MA 02186

Icom IC-2AT 2M transceiver, H M-9 speaker microphone, DC-1 dc regulator, CPl cigarette lighter cord - manual - \$225. Paul McCaffrey, K1AGM.
Tel. 484-4156.

THE FCC HAS ASSIGNED A NUMBER to its proposal to expand the term of Amateur licenses to 10 years. The document has been designated RM 83-132 and will soon have a published commentary cutoff date. In addition to a 10 year license, the Commission also proposes to extend the "grace period" for license renewal from one year to two. Action was taken simultaneously to extend the license term in the General Mobile Radio Service as well. FCC Report 1-4726.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

WB1AJL	Luke	Dover
KB1AV	Frank	Southboro
WB1JS	Elmer	Framingham
N1BFX	Chester	Ashland
N1BVZ	Donnie	Abington
WB1YC	Stephen	Chelmsford
N1GGF	Mike	Newtonville
N1CID	Vinnie	Arlington
N1CJO	Lyndy	Dover
K1OMB	Stan	Melrose
N1CMC	John	Winchester
W1DXI	Paul	Medford
KB1EA	Allan	Bedford
WB1COL	Ted	Somerville
W1EYI	Allan	Wayland
K1FPY	Jim	Concord
W1FRK	Larry	Needham
K1FTW	Arnie	Holliston
K1FPZ	Frank	Sudbury
KD4GG	Jim	Boston
K1HAI	Sam	Braintree
W1HLH	Gary	Watertown
K1HWS	Mildred	Hanover
W1HWS	John	Everett
K1IOR	David	Arlington
K1IGO	Charles	Framingham
K1IKA	John	Millis
K1IN	Al	Stoneham
K1INO	Dick	W. Roxbury
K1IU	Mort	Medfield
K1JFP	Bob	Marlboro
W1KPZ	Bill	Sudbury
K1MBO	Dave	Acton
K1MWK	John	Maynard
K1NNM	Paul	Sudbury
W1OMW	Dick	Upton
W1PNZ	Louis	Holliston
W1PKK	Joe	Marblehead
W1QFD	Tony	Marlboro
KK1T	Philip	Boston
K1YA	Ed	Natick

K1GGP KORNER

Perhaps next year will be the year taxes will be reduced. It always is.

Nothing is harder to say quietly than ouch.

What this country needs is a bumper that's as strong as the political opinions that are stuck to it.

The average guy would rather marry beauty than brains. But that's because the average guy can see better than he can think.



MMRA

MINUTEMAN REPEATER ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 2282
LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02173

FIRST CLASS MAIL



KB1FZ

1505 B403

Frank P Morrison
81 Old Garrison Road
Sudbury, Mass 01776



WANT TO TEACH ?

If you are interested in teaching amateur radio theory let us know!! The MMRA will be setting up a section next year to comply with the FCC ruling on the no-code exam and also the "in-house" theory and code exams. You needn't be a Ph.D. or such to teach. Let some one know about your teaching desire. Perhaps a whole new career may be around the corner!

Editor

The MMRA Board of Directors needs your answers to some questions to help plan club activities.

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BY CIRCLING ANSWERS AND FILLING IN WHERE NECESSARY

1. Do you have a desire to upgrade your license? YES NO
2. Would you attend upgrade classes? YES NO
3. Would you prefer classes: ONCE PER WEEK TWICE PER WEEK
4. Does anyone in your family want to attend classes leading to an FCC license? YES NO
5. Does anyone in your circle of friends want to attend classes leading to an FCC license? YES NO
6. Would you like to attend CODE classes? YES NO
7. Would you like to have CODE PRACTICE on MMRA repeaters? YES NO
8. Would you like to help teach classes? YES NO
If yes at what level? NOVICE GENERAL
ADVANCED EXTRA
9. Would you like to help teach REGULATIONS CODE THEORY
10. Would you like to Assist: IN CLASSES IN RECRUITING MEMBERS IN VOLUNTEER EXAMINER PROGRAM

Your Name _____
Your Call _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Telephone _____

Please bring to next MMRA meeting, May 17, 1983. If you cannot attend, please send to MMRA, Box 2282, Lexington, MA 02173.

